THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA):(a) and (b) There is no divergence in the practice of evaluation of seismic data followed by International Oil Companies and that adopted in our country.

Electronically operated Telephone Exchanges in Delhi

16. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronically operated telephone exchanges in Delhi at present;

(b) the total cost of installing such telephone exchanges;

(c) what is the rated life of each telephone exchange; and

(d) the extent to which such exchanges have been able to ease out telephone problems including possibility of inflated billing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) One.

(b) About Rs. 11.13 crores for this exchange.

(c) 25 years.

(d) The electronic telephone exchanges offer better reliability and performance. The billing complaints, related to registering and reading of meters are expected to be reduced to a large extent. However, as the Delhi Exchange was commossioned on 26-6-1984, it is too early to assess the impact of the exchange performance on these items.

Proposal to amend the Indian Telegraphs Act

17. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Indian Telegraphs Act to make diversion of telephone calls cognizable offence; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir. A Bill to amend and enlarge the scope of certain provisions of the Indian Telegraphs Act has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 26-8-1983. This *inter alia*, contains penal provisions for diversion of telephone lines.

(b) It is proposed to make diversion of telephone line a cognizable offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 3 years or with fine or with both. It has also been proposed that the subscriber benefitting by such a diversion would be deemed to be primarily responsible for such diversion unless he proves otherwise. The Bill proposes that no court will take cognisance of such an offence except on a complaint made by or with the prior sanction of the Telegraph Authority.

Increase of pensions for retired Judges

18. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently increased the rates of pension payable to retired Judges and also the rates of family pension to the widows of deceased retired judges; and